

Message Text

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62

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 SCI-06 L-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 CEQ-02 EPA-04 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /087 W

----- 071776

R 211837TTZ DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6657

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, SENV, UK, EEC

SUBJECT: EXPO '74, SPOKANE

REF: LONDON 13875

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DECEMBER 7 LETTER TO AMBASSADOR
FROM FOREIGN SECRETARY SIR ALEC DOUGLAS HOME WHICH WAS
TRANSMITTED TO COMMISSIONER GENERAL HENDERSON AND
SENATORS MAGNUSON AND JACKSON BY AMBASSADOR'S LETTER
OF DECEMBER 10.

TEXT BEGINS:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF 24 OCTOBER ABOUT THE
ENVIRONMENT EXHIBITION AT SPOKANE IN 1974. I WAS GLAD
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TO TALK TO YOU AND THE COMMISSIONER-GENERAL ABOUT THIS

ON 27 NOVEMBER.

AS YOU SAY IN YOUR LETTER, HMG FAVOURED PARTICIPATING IN THE EXHIBITION IN AN EEC CONTEXT. WE WORKED HARD TO SECURE A DECISION TO THIS EFFECT, BUT AGREEMENT COULD NOT BE REACHED. FOLLOWING YOUR CALL, WE HAVE CONSULTED OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS AGAIN ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF GETTING A MINIMAL COMMUNITY PRESENCE. IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT THERE IS NO CHANCE OF THIS, WHICH BEARS OUT MR. HENDERSON'S FORECAST.

AS I TOLD YOU WHEN YOU CALLED, I DO NOT THINK THAT A BRITISH NATIONAL EXHIBIT AS ONE OF AN UNCOORDINATED GROUP OF SOME HALF-DOZEN/EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN A GENERAL EUROPEAN PAVILION IS AN ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE. SUCH AN EXHIBIT WOULD BE REGARDED AS A STRAIGHTFORWARD NATIONAL SHOW: IT WOULD INEVITABLY FALL SHORT OF OUR NORMAL STANDARDS FOR SUCH AN EXHIBITION. NEITHER THE TIME NOR THE FUNDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR OUR DESIGNERS TO PLAN AND EXECUTE AN EXHIBIT EVEN APPROXIMATELY COMPARABLE WITH THE OTHERS WHICH MIGHT BE IN THE PAVILION.

IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, I AM AFRAID THAT WE MUST AVAIL OURSELVES OF THE TERMS OF ARTICLE 8 OF THE CURRENT CONVENTION RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS. UNDER THIS, AS YOU WILL KNOW, COUNTRIES INVITED ARE FREE NOT TO TAKE PART IN AN EXHIBITION ORGANISED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION.

I DO HOPE THAT SPOKANE IS A GREAT SUCCESS AND GREATLY REGRET THAT WE CANNOT BE THERE EXCEPT AS CONTRIBUTORS TO THE TECHNICAL SYMPOSIA.
TEXT ENDS

SOHM

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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